

Monroe County's Durand-Eastman Park

Trail Information

Durand Lake Trail

This trail is a moderate 1.2 mile walk over rolling hills. (Narrow sections, some small but rather steep hills and large, exposed roots give this walk a moderate rating). This trail although similar to the one around Eastman Lake, is more rugged and has a feeling of wilderness about it. Especially interesting are the sections of corduroy (log paths) along the southern portion of the trail. Hemlock and fir trees overhang the trail making this a wonderful winter trail. Fishermen report catching sunfish, bluegills, strawberry bass, and bullheads. Enjoy the seasonal wildflowers, ferns, and shrubs such as witch-hazel. Trees include beech, sassafras, maple, and oak, which make this a beautiful fall hike.

Be sure to stop at the overlooks on the eastern portion of the trail and enjoy the views of the lake. Along the water's edge look for painted turtles sunning themselves, and aquatic plants including water lily and arrowhead. In sunny spots butterflies visit the wildflowers.

Can you find the striped maple trees on the northeast portion of the trail? A highlight of the northwest section just before Log Cabin Road is the old foundation for the 3-Lakes Pavilion. This pavilion was a refectory (dining hall). There is a great view of Lake Ontario from this overlook.

Trott Lake Trail

This trail is an easy to moderate 0.5 mile walk over small rolling hills. Be aware, some portions of the trail are narrow with steep sides.

The area by shelter number 5 is Dr. Henry S. Durand's old campground. Alongside the paved roadway there are unusual trees that are labeled.

At Pat Lake you can sit among the wildflowers on the high spots overlooking the pond. See if you can spot Great Blue Herons, butterflies and painted turtles. This is a great breeding area for a variety of frogs and toads in spring. The Seyerle Hill Collection contains a variety of flowering trees and shrubs and is named after former owners of the land.

Pine, striped maple, cherry, oak, birch, spruce, tulip and sassafras trees make this a beautiful woodland walk. Seasonal wildflowers, ferns, and fungus such as Indian pipes can be found. Look for rhododendrons in the southeastern portion of the trail. They bloom in late June. Beavers have been active in this area. Can you see the old beaver chewed trees as you circle the southern portion of the trail?

Eastman Lake Trail

This trail is an easy 1.5 mile walk over gently rolling terrain, and is spectacular in any season. This trail was named after George Eastman, founder of Eastman Kodak Company. George Eastman, along with Dr. Henry S. Durand, donated this land for the park. As you walk along the edge of the lake look for waterfowl and warblers especially during spring and fall migrations. The quiet water provides habitat for painted turtles, different species of frogs and toads, and birds so bring your binoculars. Seasonal wildflowers and a variety of ferns line the path. Sunlight filters through a canopy of maple, cherry, oak, tulip, oak, sassafras, and beech trees, which are especially colorful in the fall. In winter, the textures of the various tree trunks, the evergreen hemlock and pine trees and the frozen lake make this a beautiful winter walk.

At the south end of the lake is a marsh with cattails, purple loosestrife, heal-all and mallow. In late summer look for Joe-Pye-weed, which is a favorite nectar food for the Monarch butterfly. Waterfowl are often spotted here.

On the eastern portion of the trail, take time to enjoy the views and overlooks of the lake. Can you find the old beaver chews, indicating beaver were active on this lake? In late June, rhododendrons are in bloom where the trail starts to parallel Log Cabin Road.

SIDE TRIPS

Consider a walk through the Arboretum. The Pinetum, along Pine Valley Road, is a world-class collection of coniferous trees. Zoo Road is great for birding all year. Stop and enjoy the views of Lake Ontario.

If you have rented a Shelter...

A park guard will stop by to check your permit.

Durand-Eastman Park Hours and Rules

Durand-Eastman Park is open everyday from 6:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. The shelters and lodges are reserved by calling 256-4951 and are available from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 p.m. daily. Our County Parks are **Carry-In Carry-Out**. Please take all garbage with you to dispose of after you leave. Keg Beer is permitted if stamped on your rental permit. Recreation fields are available on a first come / first serve basis if the fields are not in league use. **Pets must be leashed. Bicycles are not allowed on trails.**

Durand-Eastman Arboretum

A brochure and self guide detailing this area is available at the Durand-Eastman Park Office, the Highland Park Conservatory and the Parks Administration Office at 171 Reservoir Avenue.

Durand-Eastman Golf Course

This scenic 18 hole golf course was designed by Robert Trent Jones. Its topography and smaller greens are both unusual and challenging. Call 342-9810 or 266-0110 for more information.